

Prayer is



the pulse of life

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## Capel's Big Show Weekend

### Rev Liz writes

*Dear all,*

It's August and hopefully for some a time to rest. School holidays have begun and for us at church we try not to hold any meetings this month! I am taking some leave myself and have some



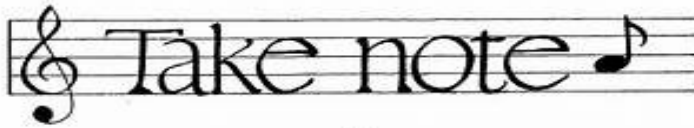
alternative arrangements in place at the beginning of this month as I am not the only one taking some time off. So we have been invited to share a service of traditional Matins or BCP Morning Prayer, with the congregation of St Margaret's Church, Ockley at a slightly earlier time of 9.30am than our usual 10.00am communion service. This will be a lovely opportunity to share with our friends there and I know they are looking forward to welcoming everybody. Consequently the published Café Church from the July calendar has been postponed till the beginning of September when I promise it will take place. For those of you who have never been to this type of service, Café Church is a slightly different experience in that we begin in our Café area with coffee provided by Coffee Real along with croissants and other goodies. We have a 'menu' for the day instead of an order of service, which gives our guests a small topic to discuss at their tables plus there is always a newspaper or two to browse through and something to occupy the children. Halfway through we have an informal time of reflection and worship. It is always a very special time, it is very informal and perfect for those who have not been to church in a while or ever!

I can also very much recommend the St Margaret's service of Matins which I led for them recently during their time of vacancy. This was very much a new experience for me as I had not led Matins before. It has become a bit of a rarity in the Church of England these days but as many of you know it deserves some revisiting. So do visit St Margaret's and enjoy their beautiful church and support them during this time of re-organisation.

**Rev Liz's letter is continued on Page 4**

**Happy Summer holidays to our Readers and safe travels to those venturing far and wide!**





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**Rev John Maskell (now known as John Miller-Maskell) , former vicar of Capel is the speaker at the next Ockley, Okewood and Forest Green Men's Breakfast.** It will be held at Oakwood Hill village hall starting at 8.30am on 19th August. This is an opportunity for those of you who knew John Maskell to hear him again and his talk is entitled '**Born in Brighton, made in the Army**'. Minimum charge of £5 per head. We presume this is men only , but please any enquiries to Barry Thomson 01306 621234 or [barry.thomson@btconnect.com](mailto:barry.thomson@btconnect.com) They expect a high turnout so book your place soon.

We would very much like to welcome readers who worship at St Margaret's Church, Ockley.

### Welcome to our new readers!

I would very much like to feature some articles/items about St Margaret's and our friends who worship there - please do get in touch with me if you have something to share! One regular feature I would like input with is '**My Favourite**' when someone shares their favourite hymn, piece of scripture or maybe a poem or piece of art and what it means to them and their faith? Did it bring you to faith or does it enhance and reaffirm your faith? Please do contact me if you're happy to share yours via email [editor@stjohnthebaptistcapel.org.uk](mailto:editor@stjohnthebaptistcapel.org.uk) or **01306 711449**

Thank you

Suzanne

## Charities we support

### The Children's Society

If you would like a Box to collect at home or in your workplace, do please let Suzanne know (01306 711449). This is an easy way to raise money all year round and raises valuable funds.

Thank you.

*"Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.*

**Hebrews 13:16**

### Traidcraft

You can buy Traidcraft FairTrade goods from Sue Partridge on 01306 711355.



**TRAIDCRAFT**  
Fighting poverty through trade

## NEWS from the Pews

Local news from St John the Baptist, Capel & St Margaret's, Ockley

### From the Registers

We celebrate the marriage of

*William Joseph Schryver and Jade Nicole  
Norton*  
1<sup>st</sup> July 2017

We mourn the loss of

*Herbert Henry 'Bill' Parkhurst*  
24<sup>th</sup> June 2017

### ADVANCE NOTICE FOR AUGUST!



### ALTERNATIVE SERVICE & VENUE

SUNDAY 6TH AUGUST 2017

Rev Liz will be away on this day. So there will be no Cafe Church as planned, but all are welcome to attend Matins at 9.30 am at St Margaret's church, Ockley.

We wish Rev Liz and Doug happy holidays!



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY see page 7 for Events & Services

**EXCITING NEWS** about The Merry Opera Company coming to *St Paul's church in Dorking* in December 2017!

Details on page 21.

Tickets are likely to sell out fast for this exciting opportunity to attend such a unique event, so do try and book yours soon!



### Christians Against Poverty

Christians Against Poverty has launched an appeal for more supporters who can donate as little as £5 a month to help it to free people trapped in debt.

Many of those whom CAP helps are in crisis – missing meals, choosing between heating their homes or having clean clothes. Often their furniture has been repossessed, and some are sleeping on bin bags filled with old clothes. One in three of them even consider suicide.

More than 28,000 people now give regularly to CAP, so that it can bring hope to desperate people in the 293 communities where it has debt centres. More details at: <https://capuk.org/>

## Rev Liz writes continued

So we have lots to look forward to this month in our village don't we! The Capel Show is nearly here and will as ever be a great occasion. Do come and visit us among the stalls where we will be selling – yes you guessed it – popcorn! All proceeds as ever for the Boundary Wall fund. Our church art group St John's Artists will be close by this year for the first time selling general cards all done by our own artists. Those of you who enjoyed our Christmas cards last year will be pleased I hope to see some more of our endeavours.

We also have three baptisms this month where we will be able to welcome more families and their friends through our doors. These are always very happy occasions. Sadly during July we said farewell to some older friends in the community too, as we hosted three services of thanksgiving for the lives of Michael Wadey, Duncan Jennings and Bill Parkhurst respectively. Despite the sadness of saying goodbye, for all of these special men we heard the most wonderful tributes and readings, sung our hearts out and celebrated their distinguished lives and the love and support they in their lifetime gave to others was inspirational. The church was full with their family and friends on each occasion.

And of course we also had two beautiful weddings to celebrate as well for Sami and Ian one week, followed by William and Jade the next. Our church was continually filled to the brim with flowers in July and all in all it was quite a month and all in God's precious name, a God who is there with us in our joys and our sorrows, at work and at play and also when we are at rest too!

With my love and prayers

*Rev'd Liz*



## Words of Wisdom

### Sacrificial love

I have found the paradox that if I love until it hurts, then there is no hurt, but only more love. Mother Teresa

### Remembering the Transfiguration ...

Joy is the serious business of heaven. C S Lewis

It is not the number of books you read, nor the variety of sermons you hear, nor the amount of religious conversation in which you mix, but it is the frequency and earnestness with which you meditate on these things till the truth in them becomes your own and part of your being, that ensure your growth. F W Robertson.

## Letter from the Editor

### *"Today's moments are tomorrow's memories"*

Dear Readers,

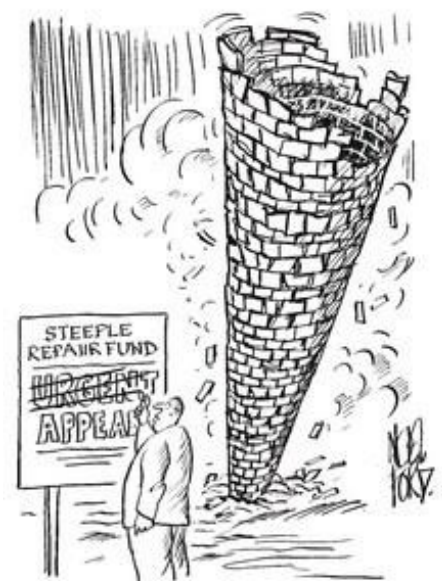
As I sit here on this Summer's day to write to you, it's not exactly blazing sunshine streaming through my windows but the steady pitter patter of rain! But as every keen gardener has been saying ... We need the rain for our gardens! Nothing lasts long without water!

As we now find our selves in the midst of the holiday season, we too need refreshment for our souls as well as our bodies! It is a wonderful time of refreshment and relaxation for so many people. A chance to recuperate, not have to live by the alarm clock and spend precious times with their families. These are times to be treasured as they pass in an instant and the usual daily routine is soon back upon everyone. I have a feeling that I shall be getting more use out of my waterproofs than my sunglasses and swimming costume as we are off to Mid Wales to the Snowdonia region in early September and if our UK holiday last year in the Highlands is anything to go by, I shall be needing plenty of items of waterproof clothing! There was a huge irony in reading 'Beautiful scenery' or 'Beautiful vistas' signs everywhere we travelled, only to be viewing them from underneath the cover of a waterproof hat which was in turn covered by the hood of a waterproof cagoule over it!! Travel to different regions, whether they be in our own country or other parts of the UK or world, is so good for us all. Even if you don't suffer from 'wanderlust', the chances of visiting different places with different cultures and people are usually something most of us want to do and experience and they leave a lasting impression on you. Those moments shared with loved ones, or sometimes simply by yourself are moments that stay with you forever. A friend gave me a beautiful keepsake box when I left work two years ago to help with my terminally ill father and it is engraved with the wonderful words "Today's moments are tomorrow's memories". She knew how important it would be that anytime I got to spend with my father made those 'moments' into 'memories that WILL last forever'. However, I wish to remember many happier memories of a healthy and happy Dad who made our family holidays memorable. As time moves on and the grief abates a little, I'm happy to recall memories of a laughing, smiling Dad who loved holidays with his 'three girls'. Some memories are more lasting than others, such as when he steered us onto oyster beds in a boat in the USA and enlisted my help to 'lift the boat' back off ... No wonder I needed a shoulder operation later in life?!! We 'enjoyed' caravan holidays when I was younger and I say 'enjoyed' in that my sister and I would much rather have been travelling in a plane like many of our friends to more exotic climates, rather than the mud laden caravanning sites that we went to! However, now looking back as an adult I can see the fun that we had.

We played board games, read books, explored the area, laughed at my father having to wade his way round a wet field to empty the caravan toilet as he pulled faces at us and generally had a wonderful family time together. His snoring shook our tiny caravan and my sister and I giggled when we were supposed to be sleeping! So the holidays we didn't think we enjoyed at the time have come back to give us the gift of many, many happy memories. These are all the more poignant now that we no longer have my Dad to share them with, but those happy and often silly holiday memories will last a lifetime! I hope that many of you will go off and do just that .... Laugh, play, explore and make many happy memories that will not just last for your holidays, but for your lifetime.

Happy holidays to you all and safe travels!

With best wishes, Suzanne



*From Parish Pump August 2017: David Winter offers some tips to parents...*

## Going off to Uni

This month thousands of young people will be preparing themselves for the exciting prospect of going off to what they all call 'Uni'. In my day, it was 'university', or, if you were posh, 'varsity'. Parents, grandparents and godparents will enjoy a mixture of pride and apprehension. This is a major step in life: leaving home, making new friends, study without compulsion and the heady gift of 'freedom'. Amazingly, the vast majority of students survive it and love it.

From my own experience as a father and grandfather, there are a few basic rules that it is well to adopt. As I found, ignoring them can be highly counter-productive. Firstly, don't get too involved in the choice of university. Modern students are a savvy bunch. They actually talk to their teachers, and they know their way around the internet and social media. It's highly likely that they will correctly identify the 'right' course and place for themselves.

Secondly, be available (on the end of a phone) but leave them space to make the odd silly mistake. Make sure they carry on their person the number of a reliable taxi service, for that occasion when they find themselves in the early hours and far from their digs. Thirdly, don't worry about their being 'lonely'. The average student makes a friend or two in the first ten minutes of arriving in their digs – and sometimes it's for life! Look forward to their coming home for the odd weekend, probably with some washing, but don't regret it when they go back. In fact, enjoy the experience at second-hand. And lastly, there's a lot to be said for a little daily prayer for them.

### Things you do on holiday but never at any other time

Get up at 2am to go to an airport.

Say "are we nearly there yet?" after a drive of 20 minutes.

Climb on a bus without knowing quite where you are going, or where to get off.

Wear a swimming costume while shopping.

Buy postcards.

Lend your key to a neighbour and spend half an hour explaining the knack of locking the front door which entails pulling, turning and pushing at the same time.

Worry about your hanging baskets and runner beans.

Miss your cat/workmates/a decent cup of tea.

Spend an hour looking for window lock keys which you have not seen since last year and why aren't they in THEIR SPECIAL PLACE?

Have a pocketful of foreign coins which you try to spend on your last day.

Go to a quarry museum and try to convince yourself it is interesting as you never knew there was so much to know about slate and that it comes in so many colours (grey mainly).

Get on another bus and hope it is headed back to your hotel, whose name now escapes you.



## CHURCH SERVICES AND EVENTS FOR AUGUST 2017

*Please note the new time of 10.00am for Cafe church*

**SUNDAY 6th** Trinity 8 - The Transfiguration of our Lord  
**9.30 am** SERVICE OF MATINS AT ST. MARGARET'S OCKLEY

*Café Church as published last month has been cancelled due to holidays*

Our friends at St Margaret's Ockley have invited us to worship with them instead. ***There are no services at Capel today at all.***

**SUNDAY 13th** Trinity 9

8.00 am Holy Communion BCP  
 10.00 am Family Communion  
**3.00—5.00 pm** **Capel teas in church** *and outside if fine*

**SUNDAY 20th** Trinity 10

8.00 am Holy Communion BCP  
 10.00 am Family Communion with Holy Baptism

**SATURDAY 26<sup>th</sup>**

11.30am Holy Baptism

**SUNDAY 27th** Trinity 11

8.00am Holy Communion BCP  
 10.00 am Family Communion  
**3.00 - 5.00 pm** **Capel teas in church** *and outside if fine*

**MONDAY 28<sup>th</sup>** Bank Holiday Monday

**3.00 - 5.00 pm** **Capel teas in church** *and outside if fine*

### SEPTEMBER

**SUNDAY 3<sup>rd</sup>** Trinity 8

8.00 am Holy Communion BCP  
**10.00 am** **CAFÉ CHURCH (definitely!)**



Each **Wednesday at 9.45am** in church we pray the **Church of England's Daily Office**. All are welcome to join us as we intercede for the church, the world and all those in need who have asked for our prayers....

## The Capel Classic Car Show—Saturday 19th August 2017

A great day out for all the family!

### A look at the success of this wonderful event in Capel— it's origins and it's continuing success

This annual event in our village started just over 20 years ago, although for the first few years it was held bi-annually. It was the brainchild of Peter Webb a former resident in Capel who owned a classic Porsche and invited other enthusiasts that he knew to exhibit their classic cars with him. The **"Friends of St John the Baptist Church, Capel"** who are the charity the show supports, was formed in 1991 to raise money in times of need to maintain and improve the fabric of our 12th century Church, which stands at the centre of the village. The Friends are a registered Charity (Reg No 1002376). "Friends" represents not only church-goers but also members of the local community who take a keen interest in its history, up-keep of the village and maintenance of its buildings.



Since then they have helped fund essential roofing, stonework, stained glass, electrical and timber preservation works. The continued support at previous Car Shows has helped pay for the church roof to be completely stripped and sealed. Some other remarkable feats have been achieved including: -

In 2000 they completed the floodlighting project, partly funded from the Millennium Trust.

In 2007 they commenced refurbishment of the kitchen and toilet areas. Just before Christmas the work was completed (ahead of schedule as we expected 2008). The church now enjoys a modern kitchen and toilet facilities accessible to disabled people.



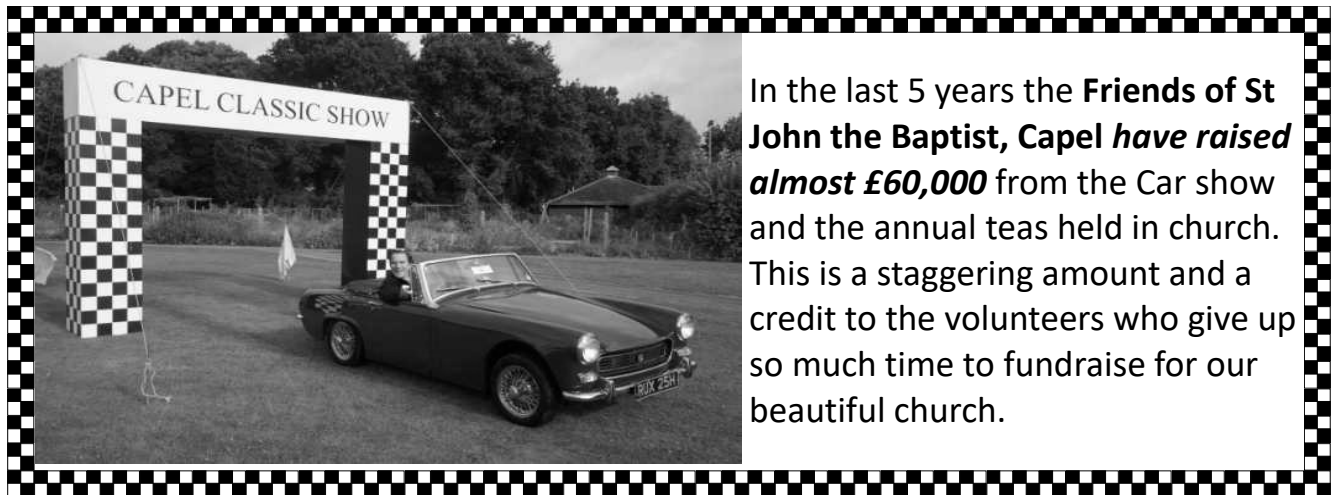
The show was originally held bi-annually on the Sunday of the Village show weekend. But a few years ago, it changed to the Saturday and the 'Capel Show' was born with the Horticultural show and The Classic Car show taking place in our recreation grounds on the same day. This has proved to be a huge success with thousands of visitors coming to see both shows! The car show brings people in from far and wide, all sharing an enthusiasm for vintage cars, motorcycles and other older vehicles. It has become a 'classic' in its own right! There are already 550-600 entries of cars and bikes for this year's 2017 Show as I write and more are expected! The show is nearly outgrowing the space available to it in the recreation ground. What a sure sign of success!

**The 19th show on Saturday  
August 19th, 2017  
from 12 noon - 5pm.**

**SPECIAL FOCUS: LANDROVER  
SERIES I, II & III**

Events of this magnitude do not simply happen and an enormous amount of organisation goes into each show. The dedicated Committee, largely made up of members of The Friends of St John the Baptist, Capel spend the year planning and organising the next show, almost immediately after they have finished the current one! From organising car parking for visitors as well as exhibitors, teams of marshals on hand to guide the drivers and photographing every entry as they arrive under the famous entrance arch, they are a dedicated band of volunteers who put on this marvellous show for everyone to enjoy.





In the last 5 years the **Friends of St John the Baptist, Capel** have raised **almost £60,000** from the Car show and the annual teas held in church. This is a staggering amount and a credit to the volunteers who give up so much time to fundraise for our beautiful church.

Do support this year's show on Saturday 19th August 2017—it promises to be the biggest and best yet!

CAPEL SHOW
FEATURED MARQUE: LANDROVER Series I, II & III
CAPEL SHOW



the 19th

**CAPEL CLASSIC CAR & BIKE SHOW**

IN AID OF THE FRIENDS OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH - CAPEL

CLASSIC CARS \* CLASSIC MOTORCYCLES \* CLASSIC COMMERCIALS \* MILITARY

SATURDAY 19th AUGUST 2017  
 RECREATION GROUND, CAPEL, NR DORKING SURREY RH5 5LB  
 12 NOON - 5PM

- FEATURING

  - CLASSIC MOTORCYCLES TO 1960
  - COLLECTORS MOTORCYCLES FROM 1961
  - VETERAN AND VINTAGE CARS TO 1944
  - POST WAR CARS 1945 - 1957
  - CLASSIC CARS 1958 -1969
  - COLLECTORS CARS 1970 - 1992
  - RACE AND RALLY CARS
  - CLASSIC VANS
  - COMMERCIAL/MILITARY

INCLUDING THE DAVE DEGENS HISTORIC DRESDA MOTORCYCLE COLLECTION

## 29th—The beheading of St John the Baptist

When you go back to work after the August Bank Holiday this month, spare a thought for John the Baptist: however rough your local sandwich bar may be, it probably doesn't serve you locusts with a honey dip; you won't be imprisoned for saying derogatory things about the local MP's wife, and even the boss from hell is unlikely to have a daughter who wants to hip-hop about with your head on a platter.

John the Baptist, by our standards, had a terrible life. Yet the Bible tells us that of all the people in history, no one has even been born who was as great as him. Why? Because of the unique job God gave him to do, which has to be the best PR job of all time: act as God's press officer.

This was quite literally the PR job from heaven: with God as his client, John the Baptist's job was to broadcast the news that the Messiah had come. Not even Church House Westminster has ever attempted anything like that. It always helps if PR people recognise their own clients, and the same was true of John: he was the first person to recognise Jesus as the Messiah. PR people also help their clients prepare for their public role, and John did the same for Jesus: he baptised him in the Jordan at the start of his ministry.

PR people also stand up in public for their client's point of view, and in John's case it led to his arrest and imprisonment. His death was finally brought about by the scheming of Herodias and Salome, and here the similarity ends: for not even the most dedicated press officers literally lose their heads over a client.

## 31st Aidan - the man who brought Christianity to England

31st August is the feast of St Aidan, who brought Christianity to northern England. He is a strong contender for the title of the first English bishop. Not that honours meant a great deal to this austere but captivating character.

In 635 he came to Northumbria at the invitation of the local ruler, Oswald. Oswald had spent several years of his childhood on Iona, and when he succeeded to the throne of his northern kingdom he was shrewd enough to realise that the Christian faith would be an ideal unifying force to pacify rival tribes of warlords.

Oswald's invitation was not immediately successful. The first missionary from Iona returned in despair, claiming that the barbarity of the Northumbrians made them unconvertible. But as Aidan listened, he felt the unmistakable call of God to try again.

"Perhaps you were too harsh on them," he found himself suggesting to the travel-stained missionary. Shortly afterwards, Aidan found himself at the head of a party of brothers heading for Northumbria. He was never to see his beloved Iona again.

The monks made the long journey to Northumbria on foot, singing psalms as they went. Their need to ward off the powers of evil with prayer was genuine, for these were dangerous times to travel through remote country unarmed. They arrived safely at Oswald's castle in Bamburgh, where he offered them lavish hospitality and assumed that they would found their community there.

However, the brothers realised that to live under the king's protection would make it difficult to avoid the world's temptations and establish a rapport with the local people. They saw the tidal island of Lindisfarne on the horizon and chose it as their base. The rest, as the saying goes, is history.

Continued on page 11

Aidan was much loved as a teacher and evangelist; though stern in his own self-discipline, he was prepared to travel to the most inaccessible villages, where he cared for the local people with compassion and gentleness. In time his influence grew and noble people joined the stream of visitors to Lindisfarne.

After Oswald's death in 642, his brother Oswin succeeded him as king. Oswin was concerned about Aidan's habit of walking everywhere. The saint was ageing rapidly, his body weakened by years of harsh fasting and exposure to the elements. Oswin wondered what would happen to him one day on the road, and also he felt that such a lowly means of travel was not appropriate for a bishop. So he gave Aidan one of his finest horses, complete with a beautifully worked saddle and bridle.

Aidan did not feel able to risk offending the king by spurning his generosity, but he rode out of the palace with a heavy heart. He knew that people would relate to him differently now that he had the trappings of affluence, and that it would be dangerous to stop and rest with such valuable belongings beside him.

The king had intended to give him comfort, but his gesture had had the opposite effect. Aidan had learnt that possessions, and the need to protect them, make it more difficult to follow God with an undivided heart. The story goes that he gave the horse, complete with saddle, to the first beggar he met outside the palace gates.

A more pragmatic Christian might have reasoned that keeping on the right side of Oswin would lead to opportunities that were too valuable to risk. Indeed, the king was angry when he heard what Aidan had done. "That horse was fit for a king, not for some vagabond," he protested. "I could have found you an old nag if you wanted to give it away." Aidan's reply was simply, "What do you think, O King? Is the son of a mare worth more in your eyes than that Son of God?"

There was an awkward silence; then the King removed his sword, knelt at Aidan's feet and asked his forgiveness. When he returned to the banqueting table, it was with a beaming smile. Sadly, he too was to perish in battle shortly afterwards; these were violent times. Yet Oswin, whose culture demanded that he should appear all-powerful in the eyes of his followers, had been publicly humbled by the integrity of a simple monk who had challenged his values.

### Church notices that didn't come out quite right...

This evening at 7 pm there will be a hymn-sing in the park across from the church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.

The ladies of the church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the church hall on Friday afternoon.

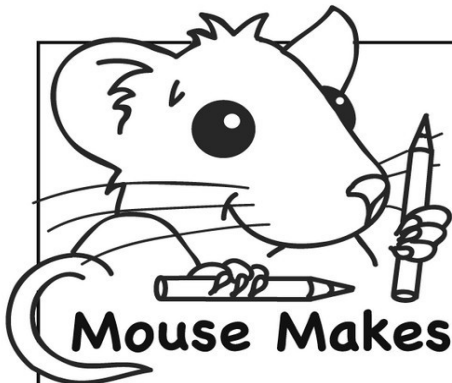
The Scouts are saving aluminium cans, bottles and other items to be recycled. All proceeds will be used to cripple children.



A helpful sign seen on a church ...

**Don't give up. Moses was once a basket case.**

# InSpire for our Younger Readers



## Mouse Makes

Where did God ask Jonah to go?

Read Jonah 1-4



What did Jesus tell his disciples *not* to take with them on their journey?

Read Matthew 10:9-10



Who spoke to Saul on his journey to Damascus?

Read Acts 9:3-8



What animal took Balaam to Moab?

Read Numbers 22:22



How did God guide the Israelites on their journey through the wilderness?

Read Exodus 13:21



Who did Abram take with him on his journey to Canaan?

and

Read Genesis 12:4-5



Have you ever been on a long journey? Where did you go?

How long did it take you to get there?

The Bible reminds us that wherever we travel and wherever we go, God is with us!



= a	= f	= n	= t
= b	= h	= o	= u
= c	= i	= p	= v
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= e	= m	= s	= y

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Psalm 139: 9-10

The Lord watches over all who love Him Ps 148:20

God is with us

Can you decipher the verse on the suitcase?



**MOSES**

Have you seen the Disney film, 'The Prince of Egypt'? It tells a story from the Bible about Moses whose mother and sister left him in a basket on the bank of the River Nile. Pharaoh's sister found him and a little Hebrew boy was brought up as an Egyptian prince.

As Moses grew older he became more and more angry at the way the Hebrew slaves were treated. Moses ran away to the land of Midian where he settled down. But God called to him – and kept on calling. For every excuse that Moses had, God had an answer (Exodus, chapter 4). Finally, Moses went to Pharaoh but it wasn't until awful things happened that Pharaoh listened and agreed to let the Hebrew slaves go free.



Pharaohs were all powerful in Egypt, but Moses was following a much greater power. The Pharaohs of

Egypt left dead monuments of stone but Moses brought together a whole living people, God's people.

**TOO MANY GODS**

The ancient Egyptians had a different god for just about everything. Can you tell which of these were worshipped in the time of the Pharaohs and which ones I have made up? Answers at the bottom of the page.

**GEB** was the god of the earth and is shown in art as a man with a goose on his head.

**KHARPET** was a goddess of the homes, especially floors. She is shown wearing a feathered hat.

**HATHOR** was the goddess of love and joy and shown as a cow.

**PHYLM** was the god of artists and craftsmen. He is shown in pictures with 2 pairs of arms. Small figures of this god are often found in boxes called khameeras.

**TAWARET** was a goddess who protected women during pregnancy and childbirth. She is shown as having the head of a hippopotamus with the arms and legs of a lion, the back and tail of a crocodile, and the front of a pregnant woman.

**THOTH** was the god of writing and knowledge. He is shown in art as a baboon.



**What is the earliest mention of pharmacy in the Bible?**  
When Moses was given 2 tablets.



Answers: I made up Kharpet and Phylm. Well, you put carpet on the floor and film in cameras (say them aloud), don't you?

**One to colour in .... The Picnic Mice**



## God in The Arts

*Outstanding people in great stories of the Bible - as depicted in painting or sculpture – that is the theme of God in the Arts this year. This month the Revd Michael Burgess considers the portrait of Ruth, by Hugues Merle.*

### **‘He gave us eyes to see them’: Hugues Merle’s Ruth**

This month we focus on the power of beauty and goodness to transform life in a woman whose name means ‘lovely friend’ – Ruth.

In the book of Ruth we meet Naomi, her mother-in-law, who is shrewd and courageous, Boaz, who is a good manager and whose words are matched by deeds, and Ruth herself, whose inner goodness shines out to light up the lives of those around. When Naomi decides to return to Bethlehem, her home, Ruth accompanies her with the moving words, ‘Where you go, I will go; your people will be my people, and your God my God.’

She is faithful to her mother-in-law and not put off by society’s attitudes, whether they are gender based, for Naomi and Ruth are both widows with no security; or racially based, for Ruth is a Moabite, an Arab; or religiously based, for Ruth is not a Jew. But her loyalty and goodness glow brightly through all that could be divisive.

The beauty of Ruth that transforms those lives glows in this portrait of 1876 by the French artist, Hugues Merle. In the background of the painting we see Boaz giving instructions to his servant. Ruth turns to them – she is simply dressed, with a necklace the only extravagance. We are struck like Boaz by her loveliness. She is gathering wheat for it is harvest time. And her own life will also be fruitful for she will marry Boaz and have a son, Obed, who will be the grandfather of Israel’s great king, David.

Painting and book go hand in hand to depict Ruth, in both her beauty and her sincerity. She is faithful and generous in so many ways. When we open the New Testament, her name shines out again in Matthew’s genealogy as one of God’s holy people who lead us from Abraham to Jesus, the Messiah.



# PRAYERS



## For School and College Students

Lord,  
 What about you and me?  
 I don't want to  
 forget you just because  
 I'm off my normal school-year  
 routine.  
 Keep close to me, Lord,  
 and remind me that my relationship  
 with you should never take a break.

Amen

## A prayer of thanksgiving

Blessed are you, Lord our God.  
 How sweet are your words to the  
 taste,  
 sweeter than honey to the mouth.  
 How precious are your commands for  
 our life,  
 more than the finest gold in our hands.  
 How marvellous is your will for the world,  
 Unending is your love for the nations.  
 Our voices shall sing of your promises  
 and our lips declare your praise.  
 Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
 Blessed be God for ever.



## A Prayer for those awaiting their exam results

As thousands of students across the country await exam results that will determine the next stage in their life's development, the Church of England has issued a prayer to support them through the anxious moments of waiting.

The prayer, written by a gap-year student when receiving her own results was still fresh in her mind, will be issued on social media on Wednesday, the day before this year's A Level results are released.

Jesus,

Keep reminding me of the bigger picture over  
 the next few weeks,  
 Keep me in your hands when all other hands  
 disappear,  
 For I am convinced that neither entry requirements  
 nor exam results,  
 neither anticipation nor doubts, neither success  
 nor failure, nor any expectations,  
 neither last minute fears nor anxieties, nor anything  
 else in life, will be able to separate  
 us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our  
 Lord.  
 Please, don't let me forget it!

Amen

## We remember those who ask for our prayers at this time including ...

For those baptised recently—**Laura Nye** and her daughter **Willow** and **Tyler Worsfold**. We welcome them into the family of Christ. We pray that they will grow in their faith and knowledge of God and of Jesus our saviour.

We pray for the couples who have recently married in our church. We pray for **Sami and Ian** and for **Jade and William** that God will bless their married lives.

We pray for the unwell, both physically and mentally. We continue to pray for God's healing hand on **Hannah Dyos** as the struggle to find an answer to her wound that won't heal continues and for anyone else that is known to you.

For **Duncan Jennings and Michael Wadey** who died recently. We pray for their family and friends as they mourn.

**For anyone that is known personally to you and for all who have come into our church and put prayer requests on our Prayer Boards.**

**We bring their prayers to you dear Lord.**

## Events in August

### The night Diana died

*David Winter remembers the shock of that tragic day, now 20 years ago...*

From time to time I am invited to a local group called 'Speakability'. It is made up of people who have suffered a stroke or other condition which has made ordinary conversation difficult. Visitors like me are invited to introduce a topic which will encourage them to contribute to an animated discussion, forgetting any disability. For my last visit, I chose a topic which is particularly relevant this month, the twentieth anniversary of the event: 'Where were you when you heard that Diana was dead?'

I began with a brief resume of my own experience – woken by my wife to be told that Diana had been killed in a car crash. An hour or two later the bedside phone rang. Would I present a live programme on Radio 2 that evening reflecting the amazing impact this still young woman had had on so many areas of life? I said I would, but only once I'd taken the early Communion service. When I went into church at 7.45 there was a bunch of flowers on the altar and a card, 'For Diana'. The public response would be similarly spontaneous. When I got to London thousands of people had flocked to Kensington Palace, crowds that would grow bigger over the next few days.

Well, I said to them, what's your story of that day? And out it all poured. The leader eventually had to call a halt because we had to vacate the hall. Their stories were of shock, of tears, of feeling bereaved even though they had never met her. One man had been in Paris at the time and knew a nurse who was on the team that tried in vain to save her life. Another woman had got up early to visit her daughter and hadn't heard the news. She arrived to find her daughter sobbing in her kitchen.

It was obvious that this one woman – 'the People's Princess', as Tony Blair dubbed her – had made an enormous impact on their lives. It might be interesting at your next home meeting or family gathering to repeat that exercise. I think you'll be surprised at the response.



Source: Parish Pump



**Note from the Editor:**

In remembering, Diana Princess of Wales, I would like to share with you one of the poems written by my late Aunt, June White who wrote this before the Princess died and about the time of her divorce. After her death, it was added to an anthology of poems written about the Princess. My Aunt died very recently as some of you know and she has left a wealth of poetry, much of which she won awards for. I'm hoping to share them with you, whenever I feel it may be appropriate!

**Diana: Princess - Superstar**

by June White

Born infinitely blessed, she wore an easy grace  
that lingered in the mind,  
the kind of form and face possessed  
by rarest chance, to last a lifetime's span:

A single glance could fell the strongest man,  
with women too, held captive by her eyes.

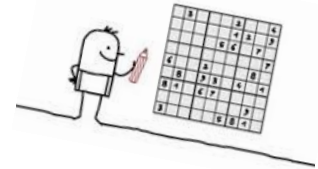
There seemed no limit to such charm as hers,  
a God-grown gift, designed to scorn the spite of passing years,  
like peerless crystal, shining and unflawed,  
She drew whatever light was there to find, and adulation grew.

Then, somewhere in the shadows, mischief stirred  
cruel rumours gathered pace and spread distrust,  
with brutal thrust of words combined to shame  
the blameless life, by fortune made so sweet.

Sorely, she felt sharp chill of malice in the air,  
Yet, with disarming flair, as swiftly charmed away the hate  
to halt wild spate of gossip in its run,  
for no barbed, vengeful story, could denigrate to dust  
the glory and acclaim—so fairly won.



# Puzzles Page



## Wordsearch

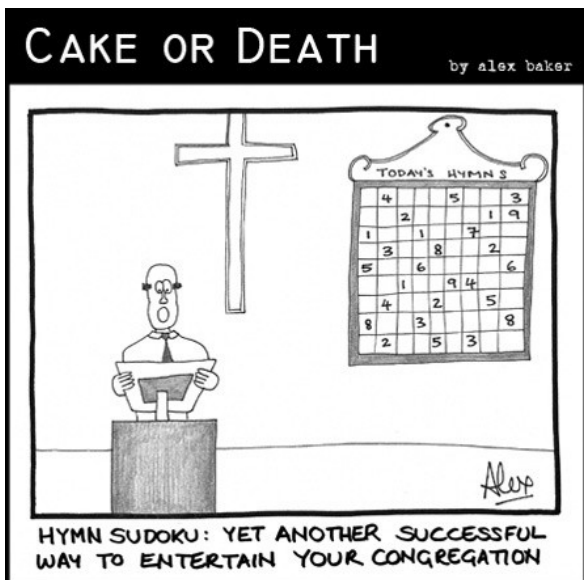
M	O	S	E	S	P	M	I	L	G	T	H	D	T	C
R	I	P	R	E	S	E	N	C	E	L	E	I	H	E
L	Y	R	O	L	G	N	I	L	Z	Z	A	D	G	A
E	M	L	S	C	A	P	P	E	A	R	E	D	I	H
N	O	I	T	A	R	U	G	I	F	S	N	A	R	T
N	U	I	E	N	M	A	N	K	I	N	D	T	B	N
N	N	S	H	R	E	I	I	S	E	K	L	N	T	O
L	T	P	P	E	N	M	L	H	E	T	Z	L	A	G
N	A	Z	O	B	T	I	L	R	T	H	H	A	G	L
K	I	W	R	A	S	B	E	I	A	E	J	O	A	C
R	N	I	P	T	E	L	W	N	F	R	E	L	L	H
T	E	R	E	H	B	A	D	E	I	L	S	O	W	Y
A	L	N	D	J	T	I	M	I	O	H	U	M	L	T
H	E	R	U	A	N	P	E	E	M	D	S	F	G	H
I	L	Y	E	G	H	Z	H	A	P	S	I	A	A	F

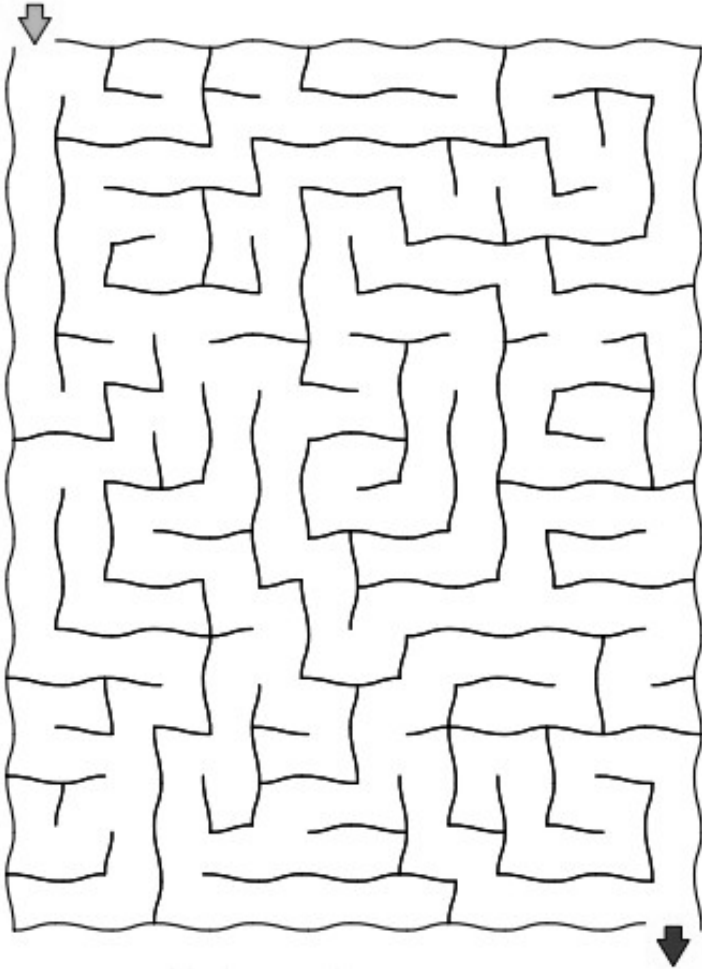
You are looking for these words ....

*Transfiguration, high, mountain, glimpse, glory, shine, sun, garments, dazzling, appeared, moses, tabernacles, holy, dwelling, shrine, presence, Jesus, bright, cloud, mankind, listen, law, prophets, handing, fulfilment*

Good luck!

(The solution is on the back page)





Can you find your way through the maze?

			8			3		
9		1	4	3				
7		3				2	1	4
		8	1				3	
1	3	4	5		6	7	8	2
	7				8	5		
4	2	7				8		3
				5	3	9		7
		5			4			

Apparently this is the 'Easy' Sudoku ... Good luck!

The solution is on page 22

## Bishop of Guildford's Foundation helps fund mental health initiative in Cove

**Dated: 18th July 2018**

**Source: The Diocese of Guildford website**

<http://www.cofeguildford.org.uk/whats-on/news/detail/2017/07/18/bishop-of-guildford-s-foundation-helps-fund-mental-health-initiative-in-cove>

A pioneering initiative by two church members in Cove, Farnborough, is being supported with a grant of £2,000 from the Bishop of Guildford's Foundation (BGF). 'Open Door' started as the vision of Sally Brett, a community worker and Sue Davis, a pastoral assistant at St John's Church, Cove, to help those isolated by mental health difficulties, loneliness or struggling to cope with life for whatever reason. Currently there is little in the way of support for people in the area who have significant mental health issues.



Open Door provides a drop-in facility on the first three Wednesday evenings of each month and offers a listening ear, a place to make friends, signposting to other services and a home-cooked meal. Other activities have included bowling nights, gardening, crafts, model-making, live music and meals out. It also supports people outside group activity times and networks with other local mental health organisations and groups. The service is run by five volunteers. "Setting up this service has been a very challenging and rewarding experience," says Sue. "Our first year has proved that the need is there and we feel that we are making a real difference to people's lives. We are immensely grateful to BGF for the grant which will help with the costs of running the group – including training volunteers, food, equipment and transport for trips out."

Grant-making by the BGF is managed through the Community Foundation for Surrey (CFS), an independent trust which is part of the national network of community foundations. By making grants through CFS, the Foundation is able to keep its costs to a minimum.

**For further information:- <http://www.cofeguildford.org.uk/about/bishops-and-senior-staff/foundation>**

## Handel's Messiah - Coming to Dorking December 2017



Merry Opera revives its staged production of Handel's Messiah for a ninth tour.

Merry Opera – a professional touring opera company - is reviving its staged production of Handel's Messiah to churches in London, East Anglia and the south in November and December 2017.

This production, which has been touring to churches since 2011 and has been seen by over 7,000 people, is being revived for its ninth tour this November and December. It is created and directed by John Ramster, whose recent contracts include work at the Guildhall and Royal Northern College in the UK and in Finland, Serbia, Portugal, France and Norway.

Although the Messiah is a religious piece, you don't have to be religious to see this production. It is staged as a meditation on the nature of the human spirit and its need for faith – perhaps in God or perhaps in oneself.

Rather than stage the oratorio with a large choir and orchestra, we allow just 12 singers and the church organ to portray characters you'll find instantly recognizable. They explain through the original words of the oratorio what has brought them to a spiritual place, both figuratively and literally, where they need help and comfort.

Turning to a building that bears witness to the collective memory, rituals and traditions of the generations who came before us, these characters are not alone, for the way in which they get to know each other through the music and the words of the oratorio gives each one of them a sense of belonging and the strength to go forward.

As you take your seat for the performance, you'll find that the church looks pretty much as it does every day. There's no special lighting, no lines of chairs for a choir, no music stands for an orchestra. The person sitting next to you may turn out to be one of the professional opera singers.

The conductor is Mark Austin, who is artistic director of the Faust Chamber Orchestra, and whose contracts include work with the BBC & Bournemouth Symphony Orchestras and the Hangzhou Philharmonic in China. The organist for is Richard Leach, whose work includes performances in the Wigmore Hall, Charlton House, and live on Radio 3 and with the English Baroque Choir. He is also the organist at Ealing Abbey.

Merry Opera has been touring the UK and occasionally abroad since 2009. Its shows have been seen by about 50,000 people in theatres, churches, the open air, among ruins, in public streets and in a Wetherspoon pub.

**Tour: Handel's Messiah:** Deptford (open dress rehearsal), Fordcombe, Letchworth, Cambridge, Lindfield, Dorking and Great Yarmouth.

### **Dorking – Saturday December 9th**

St Paul's Church  
St Paul's Road West  
Dorking, Surrey RH4 2HT

Saturday December 9th 2017  
£10.00

**Box Office: [reception@stpaulsdorking.org.uk](mailto:reception@stpaulsdorking.org.uk)**

**Easy Suduou Solution**

Puzzle on page 20

6	5	7	3	4	9	8	2	1
8	2	4	1	5	6	7	3	9
3	9	1	8	7	2	6	5	4
5	8	9	4	2	1	3	7	6
4	6	2	9	3	7	1	8	5
7	1	3	6	8	5	4	9	2
2	4	5	7	6	3	9	1	8
1	3	6	5	9	8	2	4	7
9	7	8	2	1	4	5	6	3

**Spelling**

Teacher: Donald, how do you spell crocodile?  
 Donald: K-R-O-K-O-D-I-A-L  
 Teacher: No, that's incorrect.  
 Donald: Maybe it is, but you asked me how I spell it.



...Rodney, I've been meaning to have a word with you about your carbon footprint!

M	O	S	E	S	P	M	I	L	G	T	H	D	T	C
R	I	P	R	E	S	E	N	C	E	L	E	I	H	E
L	Y	R	O	L	G	N	I	L	Z	Z	A	D	G	A
E	M	L	S	C	A	P	P	E	A	R	E	D	I	H
N	O	I	T	A	R	U	G	I	F	S	N	A	R	T
N	U	I	E	N	M	A	N	K	I	N	D	T	B	N
N	N	S	H	R	E	I	I	S	E	K	L	N	T	O
L	T	P	P	E	N	M	L	H	E	T	Z	L	A	G
N	A	Z	O	B	T	I	L	R	T	H	A	G	L	
K	I	W	R	A	S	B	E	I	A	E	J	O	A	C
R	N	I	P	T	E	L	W	N	F	R	E	L	L	H
T	E	R	E	H	B	A	D	E	I	L	S	O	W	Y
A	L	N	D	J	T	I	M	I	O	H	U	M	L	T
H	E	R	U	A	N	P	E	E	M	D	S	F	G	H
I	L	Y	E	G	H	Z	H	A	P	S	I	A	A	F

**Wordsearch Solution**

Puzzle on page 19

Any copy for this publication should be sent to Suzanne Cole  
[editor@stjohnthebaptistcapel.org.uk](mailto:editor@stjohnthebaptistcapel.org.uk)  
 By 20<sup>th</sup> of each month please.

If you would like to receive *InSpire* by email, please let me know on the above email address. It can also be downloaded from the new church website:- [www.capel-church.org.uk](http://www.capel-church.org.uk)